
Quarterly Benefit Statistics

U.S. Railroad Retirement Board
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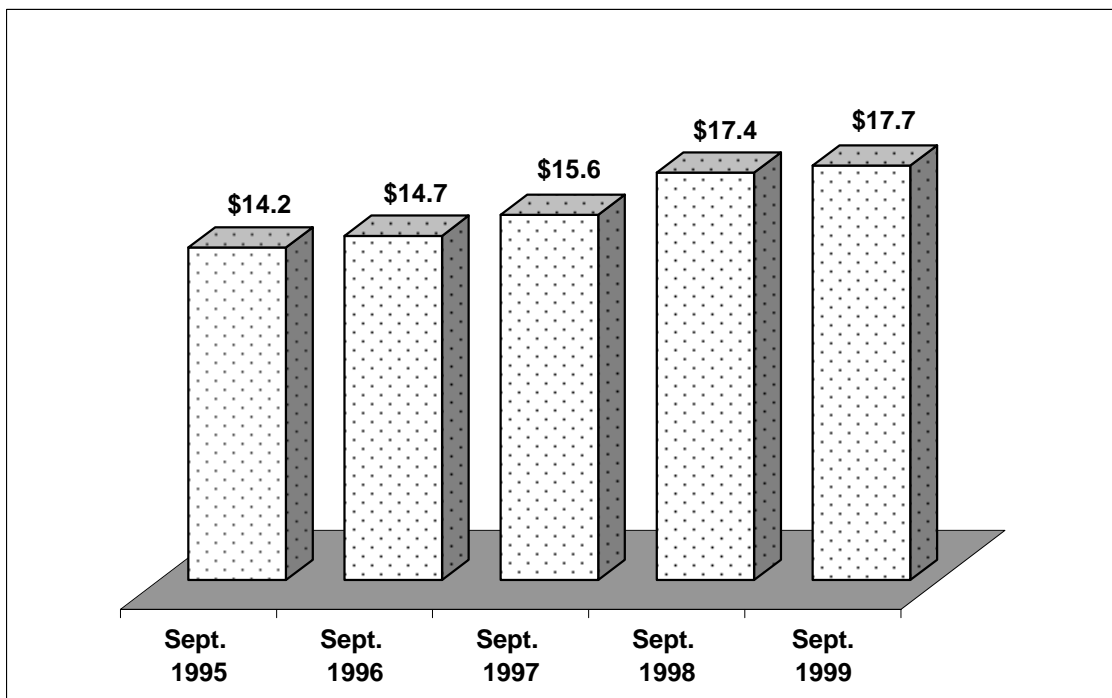
December 14, 1999

Railroad Retirement and Unemployment Insurance Programs

Selected Current Statistics for **July - September 1999**

List of Tables:	Table 1 - Retirement and Survivor Programs, Benefit Statistics
	Table 2 - Retirement and Survivor Programs, Financial Statistics
	Table 3 - Unemployment and Sickness Programs, Benefit Statistics
	Table 4 - Unemployment and Sickness Programs, Financial Statistics
	Table 5 - Benefits and Beneficiaries

Railroad Retirement Balance (in billions)



Note.-- The balance includes funds in both the Railroad Retirement and Social Security Equivalent Benefit Accounts.

Table 1: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Benefit Statistics
July - September 1999

Period	Total ¹		Employee annuities				Spouse annuities	Divorced spouse annuities
			Age	Disability		Supplemental		
	Monthly benefits	Monthly beneficiaries		Age under 65	Age 65 and over			
Number in current-payment status at end of period								
September 1999	846,696	694,691	236,741	40,025	39,592	143,515	163,842	3,636
August 1999	848,108	695,873	237,219	40,111	39,573	143,725	164,176	3,631
July 1999	849,447	696,910	237,639	40,013	39,559	144,028	164,566	3,635
Average amount in current-payment status at end of period								
September 1999	.....	.....	\$1,299.91	\$1,612.59	\$1,181.23	\$42.60	\$518.72	\$317.66
August 1999	.....	.....	1,297.38	1,610.62	1,178.47	42.62	517.95	317.77
July 1999	.....	.....	1,295.39	1,608.31	1,175.95	42.64	517.27	317.63
Number awarded during period								
September 1999	3,384	2,841	733	411	.....	543	746	34
August 1999	3,237	2,786	675	437	.....	451	657	37
July 1999	3,116	2,668	712	327	.....	448	686	42
10/98 - 9/99	36,270	31,680	6,833	5,130	.....	4,590	7,713	435
10/97 - 9/98	36,496	32,064	6,742	4,588	.....	4,432	8,263	476
Average amount awarded during period ²								
September 1999	.....	.....	\$1,777.77	\$1,792.53	.....	\$40.37	\$602.08	\$271.55
August 1999	.....	.....	1,742.10	1,798.83	.....	40.96	601.67	331.55
July 1999	.....	.....	1,745.07	1,793.70	.....	41.35	606.90	301.37
Benefit payments during period (thousands)								
September 1999	\$685,736	.....	\$307,991	\$68,524	\$46,486	\$6,153	\$86,089	\$1,253
August 1999	687,360	.....	308,397	69,464	46,405	6,141	85,815	1,255
July 1999	683,547	.....	307,845	66,882	46,284	6,200	86,003	1,264
10/98 - 9/99	8,248,533	.....	3,714,342	807,557	555,160	75,059	1,039,925	15,158
10/97 - 9/98	8,246,602	.....	3,747,308	756,259	548,954	78,618	1,053,387	14,512

¹Includes dependent parents' and survivor (option) annuities. Except for benefit payment data, excludes insurance lump-sum and residual payment figures. Benefit payments also include hospital insurance benefits for services in Canada. ²Regular employee and spouse annuity averages are preliminary estimates.

NOTE.--MONTHLY BENEFITS in CURRENT-PAYMENT STATUS at the end of month include all benefits awarded to date and payable for the month.

BENEFITS AWARDED consist of those certified for the first time on either a partial or final basis.

BENEFIT PAYMENTS for a month, shown in both the benefit and financial statistics, consist of recurrent monthly checks dated the first of the month, plus retroactive and lump-sum payments made during the month, less returned checks (excluding those not yet distributed by Account), refunds of benefits paid previously, etc. Data are on a cash basis (unaudited) and are partly estimates.

**Table 1: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Benefit Statistics -
July - September 1999 -- Continued**

Period	Annuities					Children	Insurance lump sums	Residual payments
	Aged widows and widowers	Disabled widows and widowers	Widowed mothers and fathers	Remarried widows and widowers	Divorced widows and widowers			
Number in current-payment status at end of period								
September 1999	182,839	5,893	1,327	5,967	9,280	13,964	.....	.....
August 1999	183,149	5,895	1,325	5,977	9,248	14,003	.....	.....
July 1999	183,520	5,885	1,319	5,978	9,230	13,999	.....	.....
Average amount in current-payment status at end of period								
September 1999	\$792.29	\$687.09	\$990.95	\$548.39	\$559.08	\$659.16	.....	.....
August 1999	791.13	687.69	987.90	548.40	558.25	659.05	.....	.....
July 1999	789.82	686.69	979.87	547.37	556.33	657.69	.....	.....
Number awarded during period								
September 1999	749	23	15	23	52	55	402	11
August 1999	773	25	19	28	65	70	475	16
July 1999	713	27	21	23	63	54	439	10
10/98 - 9/99	9,324	247	197	324	756	719	5,588	100
10/97 - 9/98	9,570	248	235	359	725	852	5,792	114
Average amount awarded during period ²								
September 1999	\$929.42	\$740.30	\$1,091.77	\$552.87	\$614.77	\$853.31	\$905	\$2,591
August 1999	960.90	937.10	935.26	618.11	656.73	781.94	851	3,507
July 1999	953.47	870.88	1,075.13	731.13	681.87	889.07	884	4,272
Benefit payments during period (thousands)								
September 1999	\$144,966	\$4,173	\$1,397	\$3,336	\$5,287	\$9,647	\$365	\$29
August 1999	145,213	4,223	1,414	3,364	5,333	9,829	411	57
July 1999	144,688	4,214	1,374	3,336	5,238	9,739	394	43
10/98 - 9/99	1,747,776	50,276	16,615	40,082	62,534	118,099	5,047	392
10/97 - 9/98	1,758,951	50,114	16,889	38,852	58,917	117,682	5,206	381

NOTE --(Continued from previous page.)

FOR WIDOWS and WIDOWERS aged 60 and over and WIDOWED MOTHERS and FATHERS, the number of benefits being paid and benefit payments include benefits temporarily being continued at spouse annuity rates, pending award of survivor annuities.

INSURANCE LUMP SUMS and RESIDUAL PAYMENTS are each counted only once with respect to an employee's death even though divided among 2 or more persons. Award data for insurance lump sums exclude deferred benefits, i.e., those payable a year after the employee's death.

Data on benefit payments are for CALENDAR MONTHS; all other data are for ACCOUNTING MONTHS ending on approximately the 20th of each month.

**Table 2: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Financial Statistics-
July - September 1999 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited)**

Item	September 1999	August 1999	July 1999	October 1998 - September 1999	October 1997 - September 1998
RAILROAD RETIREMENT ACCOUNT					
Balance at beginning of period¹	\$15,769,841	\$15,731,457	\$15,522,412	\$15,451,175	\$13,972,268
Income, total	315,632	379,131	547,024	4,392,979	5,550,372
Payroll taxes ^{2,3}	199,532	230,086	160,210	2,538,373	2,464,770
Income tax transfers ⁴	.....	.....	202,000	394,000	196,000
Reimbursements for payment of SSA benefits	92,662	92,428	93,153	1,117,982	1,124,179
Undistributed canceled checks ⁵	.....	.....	.....	.....	-4,545
Undistributed recoveries of benefit payments ⁵	-11	-368	-28	272	-2,787
Uncashed check credits from U.S. Treasury ⁶	33	54	38	484	628
Financial interchange adjustment ⁷	.....	.....	29,046	29,046	13,927
Repayments from RR Supplemental Account ⁸	.....	.....	.....	.....	33,863
Interest on investments ⁹	23,415	56,931	62,606	312,822	1,724,339
Outgo, total	316,552	340,747	337,979	4,075,233	4,071,465
Benefit payments ¹⁰	220,238	244,173	241,082	2,906,425	2,897,677
Payments of SSA benefits	92,658	92,638	92,948	1,117,644	1,124,297
Administrative expenses ¹¹	3,318	3,823	3,760	48,674	46,988
Funding for Office of Inspector General	338	113	189	2,490	2,502
Balance at end of period¹	15,768,922	15,769,841	15,731,457	15,768,922	15,451,175
RAILROAD RETIREMENT SUPPLEMENTAL ACCOUNT					
Balance at beginning of period	\$56,405	\$52,415	\$54,512	\$41,004	\$35,349
Income, total	6,664	10,290	4,264	92,917	120,104
Taxes ²	6,432	10,044	4,015	90,433	118,081
Interest on investments ⁹	232	246	249	2,484	2,024
Outgo, total	6,301	6,300	6,361	77,154	114,449
Benefit payments	6,153	6,141	6,200	75,059	78,618
Repayments to Railroad Retirement Account ⁸	.....	.....	.....	.....	33,863
Administrative expenses ¹¹	134	154	152	1,986	1,857
Funding for Office of Inspector General	15	5	8	108	111
Balance at end of period	56,768	56,405	52,415	56,768	41,004

**Table 2: Retirement and Survivor Programs, Financial Statistics -
July - September 1999 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited) -- Continued**

Item	September 1999	August 1999	July 1999	October 1998 - September 1999	October 1997 - September 1998
SOCIAL SECURITY EQUIVALENT BENEFIT ACCOUNT					
Balance at beginning of period	\$1,959,012	\$1,962,304	\$2,011,421	\$1,965,234	\$1,656,124
Income, total	421,137	419,527	403,108	8,903,118	9,268,058
Payroll taxes ^{2,3}	159,694	175,368	118,532	1,902,103	2,150,679
Income tax transfers ⁴	.....	.....	19,000	98,000	58,000
Financial interchange advances ⁸	252,578	235,262	256,764	2,992,296	3,145,062
RRB-SSA financial interchange transfer	.....	.....	.....	3,816,002	3,819,065
Interest on investments ⁹	8,864	8,897	8,813	94,717	95,252
Outgo, total	445,462	422,819	452,225	8,933,665	8,958,948
Benefit payments ¹⁰	443,671	420,898	421,248	5,078,690	5,069,403
Repayment of financial interchange advances ⁸	.....	.....	.....	3,370,840	3,430,012
RRB-HCFA financial interchange transfer	.....	.....	.....	429,935	419,400
Financial interchange adjustment ⁷	.....	.....	29,046	29,046	13,927
Administrative expenses ¹¹	1,613	1,861	1,832	23,844	24,924
Funding for Office of Inspector General	178	60	99	1,310	1,283
Balance at end of period	1,934,687	1,959,012	1,962,304	1,934,687	1,965,234
DUAL BENEFITS PAYMENTS ACCOUNT¹²					
Balance at beginning of period	\$1,238	\$2,213	\$1,965	.....	.....
Congressional apportionments ¹³	15,081	15,172	12,264	\$177,004	\$193,505
Income tax transfers ⁴	.....	.....	3,000	12,000	12,000
Vested dual benefit payments	15,674	16,148	15,017	188,359	200,904
Balance to be returned to U.S. Treasury	645	.....	.....	645	4,601
Balance at end of period	.....	1,238	2,213	.....	.....

¹Balances include liabilities for uncashed checks. As of the end of September 1999, liabilities were \$6,495,000. ²Net of U.S. Treasury adjustments for payroll tax refunds to certain carriers and their employees for prior periods. ³FY 1999 amounts reflect transfer of \$83,117,000 from the SSEB Account to the RR Account for reallocation of FY 1998 payroll taxes. ⁴FY 1999 amounts include U.S. Treasury adjustment for calendar year 1995 income tax reconciliation. RR Account: July 1999 amount includes \$146,000,000 in U.S. Treasury adjustments for calendar years 1988-1994. ⁵Net of amounts distributed by account. ⁶Net of returns of uncashed check credits. Includes undistributed canceled checks under 1-year limited payability. ⁷Reflects adjustments in benefit payments charged to the SSEB Account for prior periods, as compared to actual financial interchange benefits, with interest. ⁸Includes interest. ⁹Net of adjustments for payroll tax refunds (see note 2). RR Account: Amounts reflect changes in market value of zero coupon bonds. August 1999 amount includes \$1,949,000 in proceeds from a beneficiary's estate. ¹⁰Fiscal year 1998 amounts are net of adjustments for canceled checks for prior periods. September 1999 amounts reflect year-end adjustments: -\$22,532,000 for the RR Account and +\$22,249,000 for the SSEB Account. ¹¹Reflects adjustments for prior periods. ¹²Total vested dual benefits paid during a fiscal year are limited to the amount appropriated to the Dual Benefits Payments Account for that year. Any amounts not spent are returned to the U.S. Treasury. The benefit appropriation for fiscal year 1999 was \$189 million, including income tax transfers. The appropriation for fiscal year 1998 was \$205.5 million. ¹³Includes a small amount of interest on uncashed checks.

NOTE.--Data relate to CALENDAR month. RRS loan balance, including interest, was fully repaid on August 21, 1998.

Detail may not add to totals shown because of rounding.

**Table 3: Unemployment and Sickness Programs, Benefit Statistics
July - September 1999**

Period	Normal benefit accounts			Beneficiaries		
	Applications received	Opened	Exhausted	Total	Normal benefits	Extended benefits
			Unemployment			
September 1999	781	657	7	2,470	2,360	135
August 1999	958	1,343	11	2,487	2,289	227
July 1999	2,340	996	120	2,291	2,071	288
7/99 - 9/99	4,079	2,996	138	3,758	3,623	332
7/98 - 9/98	3,610	2,460	132	3,132	2,976	392
			Sickness			
September 1999	2,418	1,959	14	6,981	6,782	288
August 1999	2,629	3,738	21	6,672	6,252	501
July 1999	6,372	3,058	221	5,930	5,380	772
7/99 - 9/99	11,419	8,755	256	9,802	9,506	841
7/98 - 9/98	11,443	8,348	269	9,309	9,000	925
	Number of payments			Averages ¹		
	Total	Normal benefits	Extended benefits	Benefit days	Benefit per week	Benefit payments (thousands)
			Unemployment			
September 1999	4,557	4,296	261	8.9	\$225.05	\$2,011
August 1999	4,361	3,902	459	8.7	226.80	2,319
July 1999	3,353	2,787	566	8.2	220.55	1,315
7/99 - 9/99	12,271	10,985	1,286	8.6	224.90	5,645
7/98 - 9/98	11,127	9,583	1,544	8.9	217.95	4,231
			Sickness			
September 1999	13,571	12,996	575	9.0	\$227.55	\$4,260
August 1999	12,270	11,287	983	9.0	227.85	3,786
July 1999	10,413	8,792	1,621	8.7	221.30	2,134
7/99 - 9/99	36,254	33,075	3,179	8.9	225.95	10,180
7/98 - 9/98	35,570	31,946	3,624	9.0	218.70	8,600

¹Benefit days--average benefit days per registration period. Benefit per week--equal to 5 times average daily benefit.

NOTE --An unemployment claimant files only one APPLICATION for a benefit year. A sickness claimant files an APPLICATION at the beginning of each period of continuing sickness.

NORMAL BENEFIT ACCOUNTS are opened when the first payment is made.

The number of BENEFICIARIES is the count of persons receiving unemployment or sickness benefits in the period. Those receiving both normal and extended benefits for unemployment or sickness are counted only once in the total for each type.

PAYMENTS generally cover 14-day registration periods. For registration periods beginning prior to October 9, 1996, no benefits were payable for first claims for unemployment or sickness in a benefit year, which generally resulted in a 14-day waiting period. Effective with registration periods beginning October 9, 1996, and later, benefits are payable for days over 7 during an employee's first 14-day registration period.

Sickness benefits are paid for days of sickness after the 4th consecutive day of sickness in the first claim in each period of continuing sickness; for subsequent registration periods in the same period of continuing sickness, payments are made for all days of sickness over 4 whether or not consecutive. Unemployment benefits are paid for days of unemployment over 4. However, in the case of unemployment benefits due to a legal authorized strike, unemployment benefits are not paid until after a 14-day waiting period. Non-strikers unemployed due to an illegal strike must also serve a 14-day waiting period.

(Continued on next page.)

**Table 4: Unemployment and Sickness Programs, Financial Statistics-
July - September 1999 (In thousands)
Cash Basis (Unaudited)**

Item	September 1999	August 1999	July 1999	October 1998 - September 1999	October 1997 - September 1998
RAILROAD UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACCOUNT					
Balance at beginning of period	\$105,386	\$104,878	\$89,593	\$66,611	\$69,335
Income, total	1,747	6,664	18,817	104,462	57,683
Contributions	38	5,721	17,325	91,855	49,797
Interest on investments	1,691	479	1,396	6,892	4,539
Undistributed recoveries of benefit payments ¹	18	464	95	-99	354
Transfers from Administration Fund	.....	.....	.....	5,814	2,993
Outgo, total	6,418	6,155	3,532	70,358	60,406
Unemployment benefit payments	2,011	2,319	1,315	32,979	25,880
Sickness benefit payments	4,260	3,786	2,134	36,221	33,438
Funding for Office of Inspector General	147	50	84	1,158	1,089
Balance at end of period	100,715	105,386	104,878	100,715	66,611
RAILROAD UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ADMINISTRATION FUND					
Balance at beginning of period	\$9,917	\$9,838	\$7,121	\$7,849	\$4,883
Income, total	140	1,191	3,811	20,235	19,081
Contributions ²	-17	1,191	3,596	19,522	18,658
Interest on investments	157	.....	215	713	423
Outgo, total	976	1,112	1,094	19,002	16,116
Administrative expenses	976	1,112	1,094	13,188	13,123
Transfers to RUI Account	.....	.....	.....	5,814	2,993
Balance at end of period	9,081	9,917	9,838	9,081	7,849

¹Net of distributed amounts. ²Negative amount reflect refunds of overpaid contributions.

NOTE .--(Continued from previous page.)

BENEFIT PAYMENTS are on a cash basis (unaudited) and represent amounts paid during the period including retroactive payments, less recoveries distributed to beneficiary accounts, refunds, and cancellations of previous payments.

ADMINISTRATION FUND balances reflect current adjustments to income and disbursements for previous years.

All unemployment and sickness data relate to CALENDAR MONTHS.

LEGISLATION enacted on October 9, 1996, increased the maximum daily benefit rate, revised the formula for indexing future benefit rates, and reduced the initial benefit waiting period. The amendments also apply an earnings test to some unemployment claims and reduce the maximum number of weeks in extended benefit periods for long-service employees.

Detail may not add to totals shown because of rounding.

Table 5: Benefits and Beneficiaries -- September 1999
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RETIREMENT - SURVIVOR

Total benefit payments - cash basis (unaudited)	\$685,736,000
Regular benefits	663,909,000
Vested dual benefits	15,674,000
Supplemental annuities	6,153,000

	Number	Average
Total benefits being paid at end of month	847,000	.....
Retired employees':		
Regular	316,000	\$1,325
Supplemental	144,000	43
Spouses' and divorced spouses'	167,000	514
Aged widows' and widowers'	183,000	792
Other survivors'	37,000	632
Total beneficiaries being paid at end of month	695,000	.....

UNEMPLOYMENT-SICKNESS

	Unemployment	Sickness
Benefit payments - cash basis (unaudited)	\$2,011,000	\$4,260,000
Beneficiaries	2,500	7,000
Average payment per week	\$225	\$228
